

May God rest his soul and bring comfort to his family and friends as we mourn his loss and celebrate Lonnie's life here on earth.

HONORING CREEK'S EDGE ELK FARM & CRUM CREEK CSA FOR RECEIVING THE FULTON MONTGOMERY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Creek's Edge Elk Farm & Crum Creek CSA for receiving the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Business of the Year Award.

Creek's Edge Elk Farm & Crum Creek CSA is a collaboration between two local family farms that seek to offer the broader community a wide selection of locally-raised, high-quality, healthy meats. The farms, owned by husband and wife team Israel and Stacy Handy of Handy Hills Farm; and Susan Keith of Creek's Edge, work together to market their products to customers throughout Montgomery and Fulton counties, as well as the Little Falls, Cooperstown and Cherry Valley areas. They have made significant investments in their farms and work tirelessly to ensure that their customers have high confidence in their products. Creek's Edge Elk Farm & Crum Creek CSA takes pride being able to provide the community with meats from healthy, well-cared for animals because as they say, "not everyone is able to raise a steer or pig in their backyard."

Agriculture is an essential component of the economy in Northern New York and Creek's Edge Elk Farm & Crum Creek CSA exemplify the best of North Country agriculture. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate Susan Keith, Israel Handy, and Stacy Handy for this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to their future success.

RECOGNIZING MARTIN FERRELL NEVINS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Martin Ferrell Nevins of Elizabeth City, North Carolina on the occasion of his 100th birthday. A native of Iowa, Mr. Nevins, or "Matty" as he was known to friends, enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1941. During WWII he was a boatswain's mate aboard ships in San Francisco and Alaska. By the end of WWII Marty had advanced to Aircraft Structural Mechanic. He retired from active duty in 1962 as a Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic. From 1962 to 1980 he worked as a civilian at the Coast Guard Base in Elizabeth City, and retired as Superintendent of the Aircraft Repair Division. He was then awarded the Distinguished Career Service Award for his 38 years of service to the Coast Guard.

After his retirement, Marty enjoyed spending more time with his wife Helen. He also volun-

teered with Meals on Wheels, served as an officer in his Kiwanis Club, and tutored others in reading, writing and basic math. Matty was quoted as saying: "If you take something from the community, you ought to give something back, and Elizabeth City has given us so much."

Unfortunately, Mr. Nevins is predeceased by his wife Helen who passed away in 2007 at the age of 92; and also by their daughter Christine, who lost her courageous battle with cancer in 2013.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring this incredible veteran and public servant, Mr. Martin Ferrell Nevins.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR THORNTON

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I rise today in recognition of Major Milo Thornton, an exemplary constituent of mine and African American Pioneer who has served our community for 23 years in law enforcement.

Major Thornton began his career in 1997, as a correctional deputy with Saint Lucie County's Sheriff Office, under the leadership of the now retired Sheriff Robert "Bobby" Knowles. After a year and a half tenure, he became a patrolman with the Vero Beach Police Department.

Major Thornton quickly rose through the ranks, being hired by Sheriff Roy Raymond at Indian River County Sheriff's Office four years later, becoming sergeant in 2012, receiving assignment to uniform patrol, and in 2016 being promoted to lieutenant, where he was reassigned to criminal investigations. In this role, he was afforded the opportunity to attend advanced training courses that would prepare him for the rest of his career. He worked closely with general assignment detectives, the narcotics division and criminal analysts to get to the bottom of various criminal investigations.

In 2017, Sheriff Deryl Loar promoted Major Thornton to the rank of captain, reassigning him to the Uniforms Operations Division in which he oversaw the operations of all men and women who patrol the county, special operations, including the K9 Unit, Traffic Unit, Agriculture and Marine Unit, among many others. Additionally, he worked with dispatchers in the Communications Unit and the Victims Assistance Unit.

In 2019 he was again promoted, this time to rank of major, where he was to serve in the Bureau of Administration. In this position, he managed aspects of human resources, information technology, homeland security, Judicial Services, and the School Resource Unit, just to name a few.

Major Thornton also serves our community in many capacities outside of his day job, one of which, as an adjunct instructor at Indian River State College, his alma mater where he earned his Associates and Bachelor's degrees. He has worked within their College of Public Safety Training for 14 years now, teaching subjects such as Introduction to Law Enforcement, Criminal Investigations, and Interviewing and Report Writing.

Major Thornton is a member of the International Associations of Chiefs of Police, a graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Command Officers Development Course (class No. 80) at the University of Louisville, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Leadership Academy (class No. 28). In his free time, Major Thornton serves as volunteer board member of several charities and non-profit organizations.

On Tuesday, February 18, 2020 in celebration of Black History Month, the Indian River County Board of Commissioners will honor Major Thornton's longstanding service to the community. The Board is dedicated to celebrating African American Pioneers in the community such as Major Thornton, who have paved the way for future generations.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Major Thornton for his dedication to protecting residents and his service to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND RETIREMENT OF GAIL STOLL PATTON

HON. CAROL D. MILLER

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Mrs. MILLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gail Stoll Patton, who is retiring from her position as Executive Director of Unlimited Future Inc. Mrs. Patton has been involved in the start-up of many small businesses in the Greater Huntington region. She is a visionary, a dreamer and has left quite a legacy behind for others to enact. She is a friend.

Mrs. Patton is truly a dedicated community member whose work has sought to significantly benefit the life in Southern West Virginia and the Tri-State Region surrounding Huntington. She is happily married to her husband Paul, and they own their own business, Top Hat Ballroom, a social ballroom dance studio. She also has two daughters, Phoebe and Lydia and two grandsons.

Mrs. Patton has devoted much of her life to ensuring the success of small businesses, especially those operated by women and people of color. In 2018, she was instrumental in securing a \$1 million grant from the Rockefeller Foundation and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative to increase economic opportunities in the Tri-State area. This grant went toward improving the economy of 100 local communities.

Mrs. Patton has proven time and time again that she is a true asset to Huntington and the Mountain State. She helped lead the creation of The Wild Ramp, a year-round, non-profit farmers market-based in Huntington, West Virginia. It has already helped support countless local farmers and producers and revitalize the economy in the Central City District. It is because of people like Mrs. Patton who make me proud to represent West Virginia's Third Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize Mrs. Patton for this momentous achievement. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in sending her gratitude and best wishes upon her retirement.